Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 PA-02 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 /053 W

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R 192030Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5578

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS LIMA 4941

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR. PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - PRESS COVERAGE OF CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS

REF: LIMA 4910

1. LIMA PRESS JUNE 19 CARRIED SEVERAL STORIES RELATING TO CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS. "EL COMERCIO", GOP-OWNED "LA CRONICA", AND FAR LEFT "EXPRESO" ALL CARRIED REPORTS OF AN IMPROMPTU INTERVIEW WITH AEROPERU PRESIDENT SOTO. SOTO WAS QUOTED TO THE EFFECT THAT THE GOP CIVAIR DELEGATION HAD COMPLETED ITS MISSION TO WASHINGTON, AND THAT IT IS NOW THE TURN OF THE U.S. DELEGATION, HEADED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE CAB (SIC) TO COME TO LIMA TO CONCLUDE THE DISCUSSIONS. SOTO WAS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE RESULTS OF THE AGREEMENT MAY BE POSSIBLE BY JUNE 24. FINALLY, SOTO WAS QUOTED AS SAYING EITHER "THE PATH HAS BEEN CLEARED AND A SOLUTION IS IN SIGHT" ("EXPRESO"), OR "EVERYTHING HAS BEEN GOING WELL, AND A CORDIAL DIALOGUE IS IN PROSPECT" ("EL UNCLASSIFIED

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COMERCIO"), DEPENDING ON WHICH VERSION IS ACCEPTED.

2. "LA CRONICA" ALSO CARRIED A STORY DESCRIBING THE NEGOTIATIONS. THIS STORY SAID THAT THE GOP DELEGATION THAT WENT TO WASHINGTON FIRMLY DEFENDED PERUVIAN RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO CIVIL AIR RECIPROCITY IN ITS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CAB. SINCE THE CONVERSATIONS WERE INCONCLUSIVE, A U.S. DELEGATION WILL COME TO LIMA TO BEGIN TALKS ON JUNE 23. IN THE MEANTIME, CONTINUED THE ARTICLE, THE TWO AIRLINES FACE THE APPROACHING JUNE 26 DEADLINE. THE ARTICLE NOTED THAT, "THE DIALOGUE LASTED FOUR DAYS, TAKING PLACE IN AN HARMONIOUS ATMOSPHERE, PERMITTING THE PERU-VIAN DELEGATION TO EXPRESS CLEARLY AND FIRMLY THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT WHICH DEMANDS STRICT EQUALITY OF TREATMENT." THE STORY CONCLUDED: "IN AERO-NAUTICAL CIRCLES, IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE CAB ON AEROPERU'S FREQUENCIES HAVE BECOME A BOOMERANG FOR BRANIFF, WHICH WILL BE MORE SERIOUSLY AF-FECTED BY THE EQUIVALENT RESTRICTIONS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE ATTITUDE OF THE CAB. IT IS PRECISELY THE RETRIEVAL OF THIS BOOMERANG WHICH THE U.S. DELEGATION WILL TRY TO ACHIEVE IN THE FORTHCOMING CONVERSATIONS BEFORE THE BILATERAL RESTRICTIONS ON AEROPERU AND BRANIFF COME INTO FORCE.."

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY CONTINUES TO CONSIDER THAT PRESS COVERAGE TO DATE HAS BEEN ENCOURAGINGLY MODERATE, PARTICULARLY IN COMPARISON WITH COVERAGE OF THIS MATTER IN THE PAST.

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Message Attributes

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